



Systematic disclosure of EITI data

Explainer and guidelines for good practice

Embedding transparency in routine government and company reporting

Systematic disclosure means routine, timely and publicly accessible disclosures of information through government and company websites, official journals or publications. Systematically disclosed data is published by the entity that has responsibility for the data, through mandated government and company platforms (“at source”). Instead of being compiled in standalone reports, the data is integrated into existing public systems such as websites, registers or corporate filings.

By embedding transparency into national systems, systematic disclosure makes data more timely, accessible and sustainable, enabling more current data analyses and comparisons of trends and reducing the need for one-off EITI reporting.

What does systematic disclosure look like?

Examples of systematic disclosure include:



A ministry of finance publishing **monthly oil revenues** on its website



A **public license register** showing valid mining permits with dates and coordinates



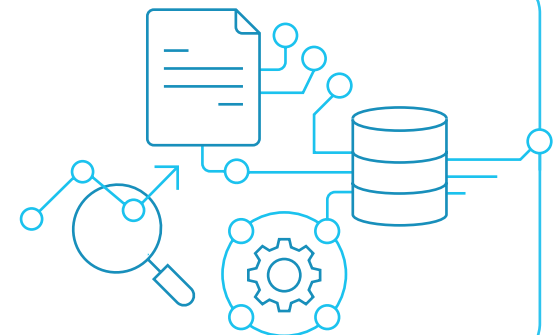
A **beneficial ownership register** listing individuals who control extractive companies



A state-owned enterprise disclosing its **audited financial statements** annually

Each of these should be:

- ✓ Published by the responsible entity
- ✓ Updated regularly
- ✓ Accessible in open, reusable formats (e.g. CSV or via API)
- ✓ Backed by metadata (information that describes the content, origin or structure of the data, such as reporting period or data source).



What is *not* systematic disclosure?

Some initiatives play a key role in making data more accessible but do not qualify as systematic disclosure, which is the default expectation under the EITI Standard. These include:

- ✗ EITI data dashboards or portals that compile information from other sources
- ✗ Standalone EITI e-reporting systems not embedded in government processes

Why not? While these approaches may help improve data access, they do not guarantee the **reliability**, **ownership** or **sustainability** that systematic disclosure requires. To be considered systematic, data must be published as part of the responsible institution's regular information systems. However, such stand-alone systems can be a helpful starting point or proxy for increasing accessibility and timeliness as countries transition towards full systematic disclosure.

KEY TERMS



SYSTEMATIC DISCLOSURE

The routine, timely and publicly accessible disclosures of information through government and company websites, official journals or publications, published by the entity that has responsibility for the data.



MAINSTREAMING

The process of integrating EITI transparency requirements into government or company systems, often as a pathway to full systematic disclosure.



OPEN DATA

Data that is freely available for anyone to access, use, reuse and share. It is usually provided in machine-readable formats (e.g. CSV, JSON) and without licensing restrictions.



METADATA

Information that describes or provides context about a dataset, such as the source, publication date, reporting period, or methodology used.



OWNERSHIP/PROVENANCE

The identification of who collects, verifies and maintains a dataset, ensuring accountability for its quality and accuracy.



Four principles of good practice in systematic disclosure

Disclosures should follow the below four core technical principles to qualify as systematic under the EITI Standard.

1

OFFICIAL AND TRUSTWORTHY

- ✓ Information is published by the government agency or company responsible for the data and supported by audit or assurance documentation.

Example: A national SOE publishes its audited financial statements with links to the audit opinion.

2

TIMELY AND REGULARLY UPDATED

- ✓ The data reflects the most recent figures and is published at appropriate intervals – such as monthly, quarterly or annually.

Example: Monthly production volumes updated on a ministry website, with a clear “last updated” date.

3

OPEN AND USER-FRIENDLY

- ✓ Data is accessible, machine-readable and available in non-proprietary formats such as CSV or through APIs. PDFs and scanned reports alone are not sufficient. Data should be freely accessible with no sign-in requirements or access fees; it should also be supported by accompanying user documentation.

Example: A license register available in CSV format, with basic instructions and filters.

4

PERMANENT, SECURE AND ACCESSIBLE OVER TIME

- ✓ Disclosures are archived and remain publicly available, on stable and secure platforms, with clear information on coverage periods and how to access historical records.

Example: A government data portal showing archived revenue data going back 10 years, with download options.



How can countries get started?

Countries can begin transitioning to systematic disclosure by taking practical, incremental steps that build on existing systems.

New, costly platforms are often unnecessary and unsustainable.



Key steps include:



Assess what data is being collected and by whom and determine what is already disclosed:

Review any gaps. Map existing disclosures, channels and responsible entities. Determine whether the information meets EITI requirements and is accessible and reusable.



Clarify data ownership and workflows: Identify who collects, verifies and maintains the data, whether in government, SOEs or the private sector.



Prioritise based on needs and feasibility: Focus first on disclosures that meet user demand, are feasible to implement, and offer the greatest value. Multi-stakeholder groups can help identify priorities.



Build incrementally using existing systems: Improve current registers, websites and reporting practices, rather than creating new platforms unless essential.



Plan the path forward: Develop a roadmap with specific steps, timelines and responsibilities for expanding systematic disclosure across key data types. This should be incremental, pragmatic and achievable.



For more information and examples, scan this code or visit eiti.org/systematic-disclosure