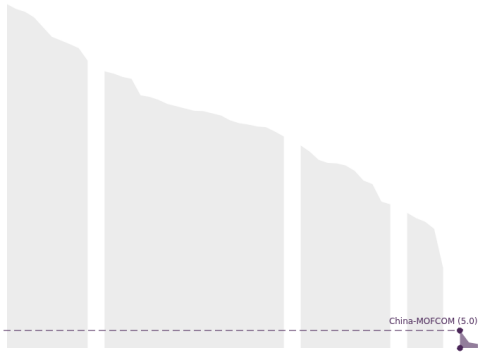
China, Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM)



SCORE: 5	POSITION: 48/50	2022 VERY POOR

OVERVIEW

China published its first white paper on its foreign aid policy in 2011 followed by a second in July 2014 and its most recent publication in 2021. According to this document, China provides grants, interest-free loans, and concessional loans to foreign countries. China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) is in charge of development policy and projects. At present, China-MOFCOM is not an IATI member and does not publish to the IATI Registry.

2020 VERY POOR	2018 VERY POOR	2016 VERY POOR	2014 VERY POOR	2013 VERY POOR

Organisational planning and commitments
5 / 15

Finance and budgets
0 / 25

Project attributes
0 / 20

Joining-up development data
0 / 20

Performance
0 / 20

ANALYSIS

As in previous years, China-MOFCOM remains in the 'very poor' category, coming third from last this year. China-MOFCOM does not publish any data to the IATI Registry and so a manual search of other data sources was conducted based on the websites of MOFCOM (mofcom.gov) and development aid agency (cidca.gov). We found two organisational planning documents, its Foreign Aid White Paper and the Measures for Administration of Foreign Aid paper which had both been updated. Therefore we were able to award scores for the organisation strategy, allocation policy, procurement policy and annual report information, which were contained within these documents. China-MOFCOM also scores on the freedom of information legislation. It does not make any comprehensive listing of all its projects or budgets publicly available, so we were unable to award scores for any other indicators. China-MOFCOM did not respond to requests for feedback on the survey.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The majority of information we were able to find on China's aid spending came from secondary sources such as AidData's work scraping public notices and field reports to track funds. To provide primary sources of information for an international audience China should clarify the roles of the agency and ministry and also start to engage in external reporting systems such as the OECD DAC creditor reporting system (CRS), the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and IATI.

Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 5 / 15

ABOUT COMPONENT

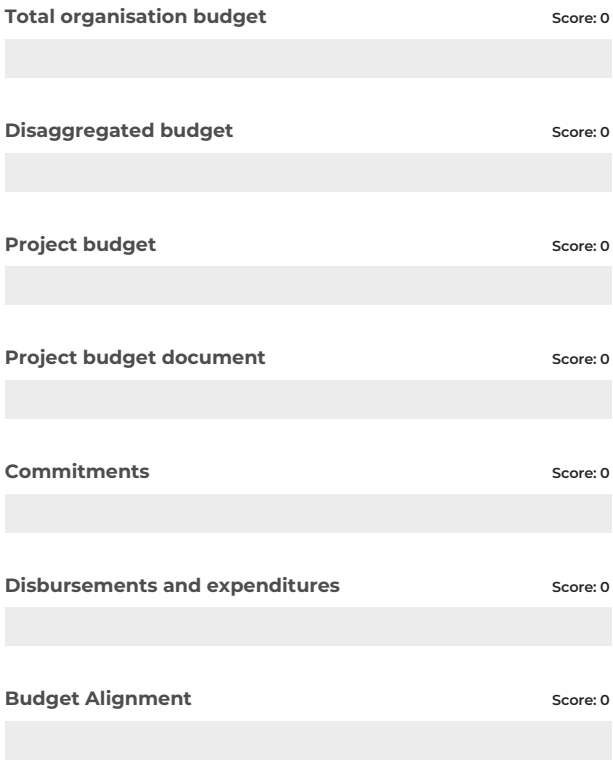
This component looks at the overall aims and strategy of an organisation. We check for any public commitments to aid transparency. We also make sure audits are published and if planning documents have been published, including by parent organisations (including national governments) where applicable. We make note of any Freedom of Information laws and critically, we make sure that organisations have tried to make their information easy to access and understand. You should not have to be an expert in open data to be able to find and use this information.

Finance and budgets

Score: 0 / 25

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component is critical to allow you and anyone else to follow the money. We expect to find the total budget of the organisation being assessed, right down to individual transactions for each development activity. In particular, forward-looking budgets from donors are important for partner country governments to be able to plan their own future finances.



Project attributes

Score: 0 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component refers to descriptive, non-financial data, including basics like the title and description of a project. Information like this is important as it is often the entry point for data users to quickly understand what a project is about. We also look for other information that helps to put a project in context, such as its sub-national location or the sector that the project deals with, for example, education or agriculture.

Title Score: 0

Description Score: 0

Planned dates Score: 0

Actual dates Score: 0

Current status Score: 0

Contact details Score: 0

Sectors Score: 0

Sub-national location Score: 0

Conditions Score: 0

Unique ID Score: 0

Joining-up development data

Score: 0 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component looks at how well an organisation's data is able to be linked and connected with other bits of information. There is a diverse nature of flows, activities and actors within the development sector. Aid and development finance data needs to be effectively linked and connected with the rest to provide a full picture for the user. This can be particularly important for partner country governments, which need to integrate information on aid with their own budgets and systems.

Flow type Score: 0

Aid type Score: 0

Finance type Score: 0

Tied aid status Score: 0

Networked Data - Implementors Score: 0

Networked Data - Participating Orgs Score: 0

Project procurement Score: 0

Performance

Score: 0 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component refers to the essential data and documents that assess whether a project is on track or has been achieved. This includes things like baseline surveys, progress against targets, mid-term reviews and end of project evaluations. This information is important to hold aid organisations to account and also to share knowledge with others on what worked and what did not during a project.

Objectives Score: 0

Pre-project impact appraisals Score: 0

Reviews and evaluations Score: 0

Results Score: 0