# DRAFT DevTracker Strategy 2013

*DRAFT version for comment and modification, drafted 8/8/13*

## Vision

*“In order to support traceability of aid from donor to implementation, we will redevelop our aid data platform to incorporate data from DFID and our implementing partners. The platform will allow full drill-down from country or sector to individual projects and expenditure, and will also support more detailed location and results information. The platform will be based on IATI format data using open source tools and we will release the source code to enable others (for example NGOs, private sector partners, developing country CSOs) present their aid data. We will relaunch the platform in late 2012.”*

*DFID Open Data Strategy 2012*

In order to deliver this vision, the Alpha Aid Information Platform was privately released in November 2012 and the Beta Development Tracker was publicly released in June 2013.

This note outlines the possible future strategy for development of the Development Tracker over the next 6-12 months, and outlines some early “blue sky” ideas on how the Development Tracker could evolve.

This is a discussion paper and the aim is to stimulate thought and discussion around the future of the DevTracker. Please contribute to the discussion!

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| **Functionality** | |
| OVERALL GOAL | Improve the features, capability and functionality of DevTracker, guided by user need gained from direct feedback. |
| ACTIONS | 1. **Multi-level traceability**: DFID ⇨NGO ⇨ Partner ⇨… |
| 1. **Subscription** capability, to alert users when there is new or updated content on a range of countries and/or sectors. |
| 1. More data from other **UK government bodies**: FCO, CDC, HO, DWP, SG etc, as they publish to IATI. |
| 1. Incorporate content from **other data sources** (e.g. R4D API, GOV.UK API) to enrich content and create better context. |
| 1. Improved **search and filtering** to help users find information more easily. |
| 1. **Organisation view** (to complement country and sector view) |
| 1. Improved interactivity of **visualisations** (e.g. bubble chart for sectors, clickable donut charts). |
| 1. Richer **maps**. |

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| **Sustainability** | |
| OVERALL GOAL | Make the underlying architecture simple and easy to deploy, maintain and modify. Operates in parallel with simplification of upstream IATI data production processes. |
| ACTIONS | 1. Build the **capability of DFID developers** to maintain and update the code. |
| 1. **Simplified architecture** based on native XML database (BaseX) and clear API. |
| 1. **Automated import** of entire IATI Registry data, supporting multi-level traceability. |

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| **Openness and Use** | |
| OVERALL GOAL | Encourage reuse and public contributions to DevTracker. |
| ACTIONS | 1. Continue to **seek feedback** and suggestions from a wide range of end users. |
| 1. **Data downloads** in different formats: XML, CSV, JSON |
| 1. **Open source** the code. |
| 1. Encourage and support **other organisations to adopt the code** for their own use. |
| 1. Encourage **pull requests** from other contributors |

## “Blue Sky” Options

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| **Area** | **Featured**  **Content** | **Social**  **& Sharing** | **Analysis** | **Visualisation** | **Traceability** | **More**  **Data** |
| **Goal** | Show featured projects or collections of projects on front page | Enable sharing through social media, and provide 2-way link to social media content. | Enable users to get deeper into the data | Show the data in more interactive and visually appealing (as well as useful) ways | Allow users to trace funding flows from DFID to partners and down the chain | Add new data (preferably through IATI standard format) |
| **How** | Content/stories from GOV.UK  Special events: e.g. Humanitarian, Comic Relief | Incorporate stories from social media (Flickr, Facebook etc)  Post links to FB, Twitter etc.  Post widgets of content to FB or other websites  Include content from Twitter based on special # | Data downloads at different scales and different formats  Slice & dice analysis  A *MyDevTracker* dashboard (favourite projects etc.). Linked to subscription. | Interactive graphs (allow user to select content to compare)  Richer maps | Visualisation of partner data flow (e.g. bubble diagrams) | Project-level results  Country-level aggregated results  Project scores  Aid effectiveness indicators |
| **Enablers** | IATI Schema changes  Data protection considerations (photos)  Hosting | | | Partner identification of traceability  Development Tracker “business” owners  One-off events owners | | |