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CONTRIBUTION OF THE EITI INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The EITI is the global standard for transparency and good governance of oil, gas and mining resources. The EITI has been successful in setting a high benchmark for transparency in a sector that affects communities and producing regions and that is vulnerable to corruption. It is implemented across 57 countries with diverse settings, institutions, and degrees of development.

The mandate of the EITI, established in the [EITI Principles \(2003\)](#), is to provide transparency to enable accountable operation and management of extractive resources (oil, gas, minerals). In resource-rich countries, these public resources have the potential to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development.

The **EITI has established a global norm** that allows countries to implement the **right of information**, both online and offline, to **crucial data** on how resources are developed (licensing and concessions), on how they contribute economically (fiscal, social contributions) and how fiscal revenues are managed to promote sustainable development. At the same time, an integral part of the EITI Standard, **multi-stakeholder participation**, enables countries to promote open and informed dialogue about resource management and the impact of the extractive industries. The EITI requirements and operational guidelines aim at protecting the participation, freedom of expression and impactful engagement of affected stakeholders in resource-rich countries. The EITI Standard is in practice an institutional tool for implementing countries to give citizens access to information about how a key economic sector is managed and its contribution to sustainable development.

The EITI Standard seeks to achieve this in three main ways: (1) Enabling delivery **on commitments to publish data that is relevant to citizens**, including data that is relevant at a subnational level; (2) Ensuring that **civil society voices are represented** in governance bodies with oversight of data publication; (3) **Enabling public debate** through the dissemination of such data.

Since its inception in 2003, the EITI has made public information on USD 3 trillion of revenues, through reports covering more than 700 fiscal years in more than 60 countries. This wealth of data is crucial for collecting revenues that could fund development programmes. Income from the

extractive sector – in the form of taxes, royalties, production shares, fees and bonuses – makes up a significant portion of the revenues of many EITI implementing countries in need of sources for financing for these programmes.

Published revenue data strengthens public understanding on how the extractive sector contributes to a country's economic development. Several countries are going beyond the requirements of EITI reporting by undertaking **fiscal analysis and modelling to improve predictions of future revenue flows**. Analysis of revenue collection practices, costs, price scenarios and revenue flows help to strengthen tax administration, inform fiscal policies, expose practices that are vulnerable to abuse and help maximise government income from the sector. These aspects of EITI implementation have **particular relevance through the energy transition**, where governance of [minerals supply chains may be at increased risk](#), and revenues from the oil and gas sector are likely to be volatile and uncertain.

The EITI monitors civil society engagement in multi-stakeholder governance through its [Protocol on the participation of civil society](#). The protocol is a core contribution to promote and protect civic space around the discussion of extractive sector governance. Through a mechanism called Validation, the EITI has conducted almost 100 assessments of compliance with the EITI Standard since 2016. The EITI often serves to create a protective space in an otherwise constrained environment.

Findings from validations demonstrate the need for vigilance and constant monitoring of this space. A third of validations, from 2016 to 2022, assessed civil society engagement as below 'satisfactory progress'. There were two broad reasons for these low assessment scores. While in some cases, the Protocol on Civil Society was found to have been breached or restricted, there were also instances of the lack of progress due to poor participation, despite the freedom to engage.

A recent Independent Evaluation concluded that the EITI has contributed to strengthen transparency and accountability in implementing countries by producing data on the extractives sector and making it more accessible. Increased civic participation and awareness of the extractive sector's activities and revenues were also identified as significant impacts. Stakeholders generally linked these transparency, accountability and participation impacts to broader governance impacts, including influencing policy and regulatory reform.

The EITI is also determined to ensure that relevant data is provided to local and regional stakeholders and that it contributes to their understanding and engagement in monitoring extractive management. Local participation is key to ensuring that resource extraction translates to sustainable development. At the same time, the EITI is also increasingly covering disclosure of data that allows for better implementation of industry commitments on gender balance, and increasingly provides granular data on key aspects of environmental regulations and their enforcement.