

## IATI EXEMPTION STATEMENT

December 2020

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### Search's Commitment to IATI

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Search for Common Ground is fully committed to the mission of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) to improve the transparency and accountability of aid funding. As a recipient of development resources and public funds, we take seriously our responsibility in being a transparent partner and contributor to the international development community. Our programs are required to regularly publish information about our activities to the IATI Registry in accordance with donor requirements. Through the IATI Registry, we provide the following information on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)-funded programs:

- Project name and description
- Expenditure and budget
- Funding provided to downstream partners

We work closely with our delivery chain partners to ensure they comply with IATI requirements on our FCDO funded programs. We have developed a guide to IATI reporting to help program staff and delivery chain partners to submit accurate and timely data and information on their activities to the IATI Registry.

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### Exclusion Criteria

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Due to the nature of Search's work in complex environments, we may not be able to share all of the data required by the IATI Standard. In consultation with the donor, we may exclude data from the IATI Registry for the following reasons:

- **Safety and security:** Disclosure of the information would impact the safety and security of Search's personnel, downstream partners, and beneficiaries, or could harm our work internationally.
- **Data protection:** Search is required to protect personal data in accordance with Search's data and privacy policies and GDPR requirements. We may not be able to disclose this data without consent of the individual involved.
- **Intellectual property rights:** To comply with confidentiality and intellectual property rights clauses in Search's agreements with client organizations and Search's agreements with downstream partners, we are unable to disclose information that belongs to another organization.
- **Confidentiality:** Search may be unable to disclose information due to legal, business, or contractual obligations to restrict access to sensitive information.
- **Data Accuracy:** At times, events taking place during data collection in conflict settings may significantly alter the ability to reliably collect data on questions with a high level of sensitivity. Data found to have significant inaccuracies due to data collection challenges may be removed to ensure audiences are not misled.

If program data needs to be excluded from the IATI Registry, the program team will provide FCDO with a justification for excluding the information. In cases where data may have to be excluded, data can still be published to the IATI Registry with the following adaptations:

- Anonymizing the names of funding organizations and/or downstream partners
- Including a region when showing a specific location may be too sensitive
- Not publishing personally identifiable information