

# Aid Transparency Rating in Switzerland

## By AidRating

INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS ASSOCIATION

26.11.2011  
www.aidrating.org

HLF4 Civil Society Forum  
Busan, Korea

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# Why a Transparency Rating?

(and why in Switzerland?)

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## The actual environment

- A century-old tradition in donating for humanitarian goals
- Term „humanitarian“ carries high prestige
- Celebrities and politicians like to join panels and boards to decorate their career
- It is viewed as „immoral“ by some to ask questions; therefore:
- Agencies are not used to answer to the wide public**

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## BUT:

- Aid has become a billion-dollar business
- There is a mix between public and private funding
- We cannot afford to waste resources
- The public has a right to know
- Transparency is both condition and proof for good performance

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## The AidRating Method:

- 1.Count projects of largest agencies
- 2.Count on how many of these they report
3. Take a sample of 8 projects and see how good the information is (10 criteria, incl. cost and results)
- 4.Combine both scores

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### 1.Count projects of largest agencies 2.Count on how many of these they report

Representativity 2011 and comparison with preceding year  
Percent of projects which can be found

Agency	2010 (%)	2011 (%)
Swissaid	44	44
SDC	28	46
Falkenhofer	36	55
Swiss-contact	36	56
Caritas	30	76
Helvetas	30	80
Solidar (SAH)	76	80
SPK	76	100
HEKS	52	100
TDH	100	100
World Vision	100	100
Dorcaschicht	66	75

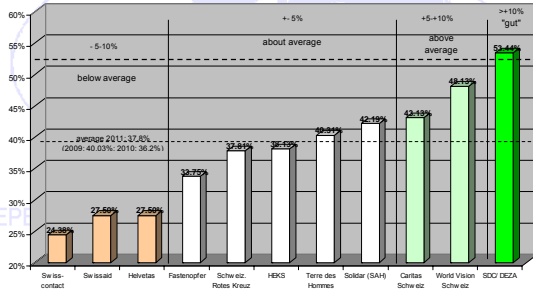
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3. Take a sample of 8 projects and see how good the information is

TCR4 2011: Operational Transparency, all 10 Questions



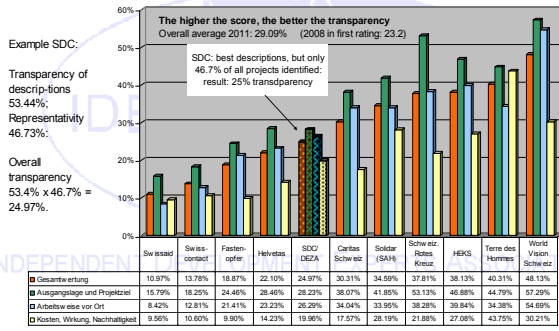
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4. Combine both for an overall ranking:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Representativity (Coverage) \%} \\ &\times \\ &\text{Information quality \%} \\ &= \\ &\text{Overall Transparency \%} \end{aligned}$$

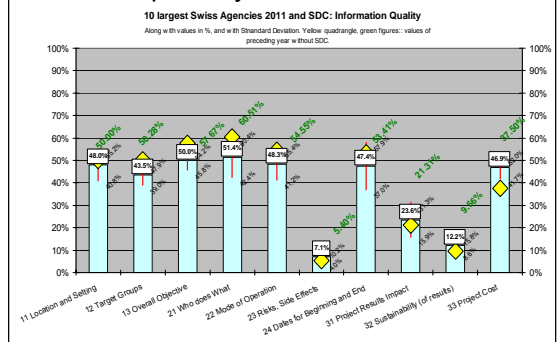
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Transparency Ranking 2011 of largest Swiss Aid Agencies and of SDC



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Transparency found on 10 criteria



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Effects after 4 years:

- Coverage of projects has improved
- Transparency has become an issue (SDC?)
- Data quality still insufficient

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Outlook:

- Discussion is needed both in donor as well as as in partner countries
- The issue should not be left to donors and government bodies alone. It should benefit from a wide range of concept ideas. Public pressure should be kept up.

See our presentation on "Standardized Evaluation" Tomorrow 27th after 1000h in session "Whose Ownership Matters"

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