Parliamentary engagement in OGP

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The Basics

+ International multi-stakeholder platform
+ Making governments more open, accountable, and responsive to citizens
+ Co-creation by civil society and government
Who We Are

Our Origin
- Founded in 2011 by government leaders and civil society advocates

Our Values
- Accountability
- Participation
- Inclusion
- Responsiveness

Our Members
- From 8 to 79 countries
- Growing number of local governments
- Thousands of civil society organizations, academic professionals, and private businesses
How OGP Works

**Action**
- Governments and civil society co-create two-year action plans with concrete reforms or commitments
- 4,000+ commitments made to date

**Community**
- OGP members engage in peer learning and exchange.

**Accountability**
- The OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) monitors all action plans to ensure governments follow through on commitments.
- Members conduct self-assessments
Independent Review

INDEPENDENT REPORTING MECHANISM (IRM) TO HOLD OGP GOVERNMENTS TO ACCOUNT AND LEARN

+ Is formulation, implementation and monitoring of action plan collaborative and open?
+ Are action plans relevant, accountable and verifiable?
+ Are more ambitious actions getting done?
OGP in numbers

- 79 COUNTRIES
- 20 LOCAL
- 3,981 COMMITMENTS
- 167 NATIONAL ACTION PLANS
- Accountability by IRM
- 3000+ CIVIL SOCIETY
- 9 Multi-Lateral Partners
Issues to Address through OGP
Issues to Address through OGP

- Guarding Civic Space
- Including All Voices
- Fighting Corruption
- Granting Access to Justice
- Promoting Better Public Services

- Protecting Natural Resources
- Improving Digital Governance
- Opening Up Budgets
- Obtaining the Right to Information
Fighting Corruption
Fighting Corruption

OGP members tackle corruption through prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and sanctions

- Beneficial Ownership
- Open Contracting
- Money in Politics
OGP is a vital partner and platform to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 16+ which includes peaceful, just and inclusive societies, and accountable institutions.
Implementing SDG16+ Through the Open Government Partnership
Many OGP members are using open government approaches within their Action Plans that help them make progress across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals

- **Uruguay** - government and civil society are working to bring more awareness and clarity to gender-based violence against women and are publishing the information that they collect.

- **South Africa** - the government has launched a platform for citizen involvement in the budget making process, as a result of which there has been better communication of citizen needs and proposals for more housing, equal opportunities for women, and road maintenance and infrastructure.

- **Latvia** - the government has created mechanisms to make it easier for individuals to report potential unethical activity by the government, a commitment which has the potential to restore trust in public institutions and help prevent corruption and abuses of power.

- **North Macedonia** has put forward reforms on developing forms of access to justice for its population and specifically marginalized groups and the poor.
How SDG16+ provide a platform for accelerated action on one or more of the other SDGs:

In Uruguay as part of their current National Action Plan government and civil society are working to bring more awareness and clarity to the issue of gender-based violence against women.

Leveraging their OGP action plan, the Buenos Aires government developed the digital platform Dónde which reduces obstacles and inconsistencies in sexual and reproductive health services and provides information on the availability of sexual and reproductive health services throughout the city.
Parliamentary Engagement
Policy Guidance (2017)

- A Parliamentary ‘Chapter’
- Stand-alone parliamentary commitments
Parliaments as Partners for Open Government Reform

+ What’s in it for parliaments?
+ What’s in it for the open government agenda?
+ (New) avenues for parliamentary engagement
(New) avenues for parliamentary engagement

+ **Parliaments as champions of OGP values and principles**
  - Meeting eligibility criteria, fostering citizen engagement, protecting civic space

+ **Parliaments as partners for ambition action**
  - Setting the agenda, lending weight to initiatives, tapping into the knowledge and networks of MPs

+ **Improving the implementation of OGP Action Plans**
  - Taking legislative action, providing oversight of plans and securing budget support

+ **Strengthening the sustainability of open government reforms**
  - Navigating political transitions, building long-term and cross-party support, working across government

+ **Open parliaments**
  - Transparency, accountability and participation from a parliament’s election and composition to its management and operations, and across its core functions and activities.
Parliamentary oversight in OGP: Georgia

3 Legislative Openness Action Plans have already been initiated and implemented in cooperation with civil society by the Parliament of Georgia with commitments that support citizen engagement in legislative processes, openness, transparency and accountability of the parliament.
In Paraguay, a new Senate portal allows civil society, legislators and other interested parties to monitor budget execution level for government departments in every sector.
Parliamentary oversight in OGP: Chile

Bringing New Voices Into Parliament

To bring more citizens into parliament, the Chamber of Deputies in Chile developed a motion for improved regulation on citizen participation.
Parliamentary oversight in OGP: Croatia

Through an e-consultation portal, Croatia now discloses high-quality information and empowers citizens to monitor and contribute to the drafting of legislative proposals.
Citizens now crowd-source, prioritize, and vote on key policy proposals online and offline through the People’s Assembly, or Rahvakogu.
The Parliament of Kyrgyzstan has committed to overseeing the implementation of the OGP Action Plan, helping civil society hold government to account for the open government reforms it has committed to through OGP.
Making it happen: The OPeN Parliament e-Network

OPeN Partners support the principles of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness and provide technical assistance at the national, regional and global level.
What’s next on our side...

+ co-creation and implementation of parliament plans and commitments
+ Engagement of ‘new’ parliaments and partners
+ What can we do better?
... and what we can do for you

+ Join a global network of openness champions to work with, learn from and inspire.
+ Get access to and buy-in from key national, regional and global reformers
+ Position yourself as a parliament that is open, responsive and accountable to its citizens
Back to the Basics

+ From co-creation to dialogue
+ From abstract aspirations to effective implementation
+ Stronger parliaments, able and willing to represent citizens and hold their governments to account
THANK YOU!

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